THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Scientists at Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar have not developed any medicine from algae. However, a process for preparing liquid biofertilizer has been developed by CSMCRI using seaweed red algae *Kappaphycus alvarezii* (US Patent 6,893,479; dated May 17, 2005). The biofertilizer enhances the growth of various crop plants when used as foliar spray. The process know-how has been transferred for commercial exploitation. Further, the laboratory has also been granted a US patent (US 7067568; June 27, 2006) on a process for preparation of biodegradable film from semi-refined kappa carrageenan, obtained from red algae *Kappaphycus alvarezii* which can be utilized for making capsules.

**UNESCO report on status of Indian Science**

2212. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree with the findings on the status of Indian Science, as contained in UNESCO Science Report, 2005;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, whether Government have intimated its disagreement to the UNESCO and if so, the response of the UNESCO thereto;

(c) whether Government do agree that none of the Indian Universities could be ranked in the first 20 universities of Asia; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the performance of universities in scientific disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. UNESCO Science Report 2005 has made positive comments on the status of Indian Science and lists 7 Indian Institutions of higher education in the top 20 Asian Science and Technology universities. (List given in Statement).

(d) Does not arise.

***Statement***

*The top 20 S&T universities in Asia, 2000*

(Table 3, p. 251, UNESCO Science report 2005)

| Ranking | Country/territory | University |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Republic of Korea | Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology |
| 2. | Republic of Korea | Pohang University of Science and Technology |
| 3. | India | Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay |
| 4. | India | Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi |
| 5. | India | Indian Institute of Technology, Madras |
| 6. | Japan | Tokyo Institute of Technology |
| 7. | India | Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur |
| 8. | India | Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur |
| 9. | Singapore | Nanyang Technological University |
| 10. | Taiwan of China | Taiwan University of Science and Technology |
| 11. | Japan | Science University of Tokyo |
| 12. | Hong Kong | Hong Kong Polytechnic University |
| 13. | Japan | Nagoya Institute of Technology |
| 14. | India | University of Roorkee |
| 15. | China | University of Science and Technology of China |
| 16. | Japan | Muroran Institute of Technology |
| 17. | China | Beijing University of Posts and Communications |
| 18. | China | Hauzhong University of Science and Technology |
| 19. | India | Birla Institute of Technology and Science |
| 20. | Pakistan | National University of Sciences and Technology |

NOTE: Universities were assessed by *Asiaweek* magazine according to five criteria: academic reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, research and financial resources. *Asiaweek* discontinued publication after 2000.

SOURCE: *Asiaweek*